Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JAN 2005

PATENT COOPERATION TREAT



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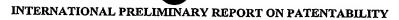
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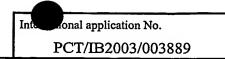
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference NAGACO.001VP	FOR FURTHER A	CTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416		
International application No. PCT/IB2003/003889	International filing da		Priority date (day/month/year)		
PC1/1B2003/003889	22 July 2003	(22.07.2003)	24 July 2002 (24.07.2002)		
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A23G 3/30					
Applicant NAGAOKA CO., LTD.					
This report is the international prelin	ningry everningtion ren	nort established by this	International Dusliminant Evenining		
 This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 					
2. This REPORT consists of a total of		=	heet.		
3. This report is also accompanied by A	NNEXES, comprising	g:			
a. (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:					
sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).					
sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the					
Supplemental Box	ζ.				
b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).					
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:					
Box No. I Basis of the report					
Box No. II Priority					
Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability					
Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention					
Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement					
Box No. VI Certain documents cited					
Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application					
Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application					
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report			
18 February 2004 (18.02.2004)		01 December 2004 (01.12.2004)			
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP		Authorized officer			
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.			

Translation





Box No. I	Basis of the report
1. With regard	rd to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless indicated under this item.
Th:	is report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, ich is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
	international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
	publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
	international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
and are no	rd to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" at annexed to this report):
I —	international application as originally filed/furnished
page	description:
page	, as originary meditinished
page	- I was a substitute of the su
the c	claims:
page	
page	, as originary metricularities
page	, which will be still
page	
the d	lrawings:
page	
page	, as originally mediumshed
page	
☐ a sec	quence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
	described moto(c) and dupplemental box relating to bequence Listing.
2 The	nmondments have marked in the control of
3 The	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
	the description, pages
	the claims, Nos.
	the drawings, sheets/figs
	the sequence listing (specify):
	any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):
4. This	report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been
(Rule	s, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box 270.2(c)).
	the description, pages
	the claims, Nos.
	the drawings, sheets/figs
	the sequence listing (specify):
	any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):
* If item 4 ap	plies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

v .	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-15	YES
		Claims		NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
		Claims	1-15	NO NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-15	YES
		Claims		NO

Citations and explanations

- Document 1: WO 95/09601 A1 (The Procter & Gamble Co.), 13 April 1995, claim 5; page 6, lines 13 and 24-26; page 7, lines 2-5
- EP 711506 A2 (Rijksuniversiteit te Document 2: Groningen) 15 May 1996, claims 1-13
- Document 3: WO 96/20609 A1 (Warner-Lambert Co.), 11 July 1996, claim 17; page 6, line 32; page 6, line 37 to page 7, line 2; page 9, lines 29-33
- WO 96/11582 A1 (Warner-Lambert Co.), 25 Document 4: April 1996, page 9, line 30; page 10, lines 2-6
- WO 94/14424 A1 (Whitehill Oral Technologies, Document 5: Inc.), 07 July 1994, page 32, lines 9-20
- EP 66864 A2 (Nabisco Brands Inc.), 15 Document 6: December 1982, claim 10
- JP 6-141792 A (Warner-Lambert Co.), 24 May Document 7: 1994, column 11, lines 40-45

The inventions that are set forth in claims 1-15 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1-7. The components that can be used in the inventions that are set forth in claims 1-15 are all well known as components in a base composition for chewing gum, as

disclosed in documents 1-7. Furthermore, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to configure the ranges for the contents of the components in the light of the disclosures of documents 1-7.